



August 2023

Hello Fellow Kiwanians,

Last weekend, we celebrated and participated in the Nebraska-Iowa District's 104th annual convention. Thank you to those who joined us and to those who made this convention possible. I think a good time was had by all.

One of the biggest highlights of the convention was our keynote speaker, Astronaut Clayton Anderson, who kept us entertained throughout his presentation. I was told by The Bookworm that more than 150 books were sold and autographed by Mr. Anderson, and that did not include books that Kiwanians brought to the convention for him to sign! When our Kiwanians go into classrooms this fall to read to students, they will be taking books written and autographed by an astronaut. Wow!

We also packaged 12,000 meals on Friday evening for Heartland Kids Against Hunger. One hundred percent of the apple/oatmeal mixture that was packaged will be locally distributed.

Kiwanians also contributed \$145.00 and five large boxes of fresh produce to Saving Grace Perishable Food Rescue who work with nearly 40 community organizations feeding the hungry.

The "Baskets for Foundation" fundraiser for our District Foundation also raised \$2,500, which will go for future grants for our clubs. Another wow!

And our golf tournament for Key Club raised \$1,500.00. Yes, Kiwanians are indeed generous!

We also learned a lot from 14 educational sessions, a presentation from our own Past International President Jane Erickson and words shared by Kiwanis International President-Designate Katrina Baranko and International Trustee-Designate Cathy Tutty.

Our House of Delegates also approved a \$15 annual dues increase, which will help our district continue to move forward and provide for our members in a fiscally responsible manner.

These are just some of the highlights. None of it would have been possible without Kiwanis volunteers and our convention sponsors. My sincerest thank you to each of you.

As we near the end of our Kiwanis fiscal year, please continue focusing on membership and inviting potential members to visit and join your club. We have a great story to tell. We have a great Nebraska-Iowa District. And we have a lot more to do for our kids and our communities.

Thank you for being a Kiwanian.

Sincerely,

*Gov. Lynda*

